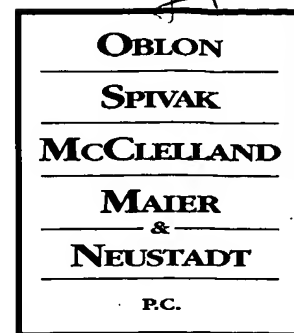




Docket No.: 245420US6

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

BRADLEY D. LYTLE  
(703) 412-6489  
BLYTLE@OBLON.COM

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/714,866  
Applicants: Kimihiro SAITO, et al.  
Filing Date: November 18, 2003  
For: OPTICAL PICKUP DEVICE, RECORDING AND  
REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND GAP  
DETECTION METHOD  
Group Art Unit: 2655

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**First Office Action Status Request (in duplicate)**

Our check in the amount of \$0 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Bradley D. Lytle  
Registration No. 40,073

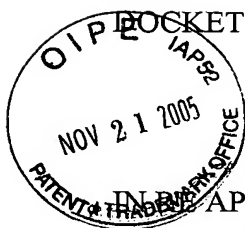
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POCKET NO.: 245420US6/sta

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Kimihiro SAITO, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/714,866

GROUP NO: 2655

FILED: November 18, 2003

FOR: OPTICAL PICKUP DEVICE, RECORDING AND REPRODUCING  
APPARATUS AND GAP DETECTION METHOD

**FIRST OFFICE ACTION STATUS REQUEST**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to inform the undersigned of the approximate date a first Official Action will be issued in this Application.

A duplicate of this letter is enclosed for your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted, /

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